efficiency. For achieving significantly)vij;her production levels,technology up-gradation i_s requred.

(e) and if) the company has: entered into an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MAX-GB India for upgradation of the technology for manufacture *ttf* Pen. U in, the existing Plant through ; taint Venture Collaboration. The Joint Venture is subject to approval of the Government which has yet *Io* be given. :he matter relating io the proposed Joint Venture between HAL and Max-GB is before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi .through Writ Petitions No. CW. 3160/ 94,3161194 and 3181194. Notices in respect of these Writ Petitions have heen received by the Government on the 5th August, 1994.

Steps fo boost leather Industry

*280. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether tt is a fact that the Indian leather industry has tremendous global market potentialities;

fb) whether a large quantity of untan-ned leather from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh finds its way to the world market via. Nepal and this quality is known as "Jitbut leather'- and

fc) if so, what are the details of the ??plans, if my, to boost the leather industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. A UNDP assisted National Leather Deve-lopment Programme is currently being implemented by Government of India. This programme covers areas like human resource development, research and de-velopment, improvement in support services, environmental protection, enhancing exports etc.

(b) Intelligence reports indicate smug-gling of raw leather from India to Nepal through Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Implementation *pt* Kndankulam Atomic Power Project

2272. SHRI S^ MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased *to* slate:

(a) whether the implementation of Kudankulam Atomic Power Project was discussed with Russia during the recent visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister to Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement this project in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) A very brief reference to bilateral consultations on the Kundankulam Atomic Power Project was made by the Russian side during tho Prime Minister's visit to the Russian Federation in Tune-July this year.

(c) The Kudankulam Atomic Power Project was to be implemented in terms of the Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) of November, 1988 signed between erstwhile USSR and India Consequent io the developments in the erstwhile USSR. discussions have been held with the Russian Federation during 1993-94 for implementation after making a fresh ass-essment of the economic and commercial aspects of the project which have changed since the signing of IGA in 1988.

Heavy Water Requirements

2273. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreements have been signed with some foreign countries for the supply of heavy water during *1991-92,* 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the names of such countries with terms of agreement fa each case separately during each yean

(c) wkether some States add Union Territories have been provided melt